



HOIKE LONO

(communicate)

November 2002
Volume 5, No. 3

"Neighborhoods and neighborhood boards to increase and assure effective citizen participation in the decisions of government..."



Neighborhood Boards Honored For Twenty-Five Year Service To Honolulu

Fifteen of Oahu's 32 Neighborhood Boards will be recognized for their 25 years of service to the citizens of Honolulu. The ceremony, a kick off for the 2003 Neighborhood Board elections, will be held on Thursday, November 7 at 9:45 a.m. in the Mayor's conference room.

Happy Birthday to the following Neighborhood Boards:

Hawaii Kai No. 1
Kaimuki No. 4
Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights No. 5
Palolo No. 6
Manoa No. 7
Waikiki No. 9
Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus No. 10
Ala Moana/Kakaako No. 11
Nuuanu/Punchbowl No. 12
Downtown No. 13
Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Hts. No. 14
Aiea No. 20
Pearl City No. 21
Ewa No. 23
North Shore No. 27

Neighborhood Boards started with the 1972 adoption of a City Charter amendment that led to the creation of the neighborhood board system for Oahu. The system was created to increase and assure effective citizen participation.

New Neighborhood Board Chairs

The following chairs were elected to their neighborhood boards:

Christen Mitchell, Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis Heights No. 5
Joe Magaldi, Nuuanu/Punchbowl No. 12
Robert Finley, Waikiki No. 9
C.O. "Andy" Anderson, Waipahu No. 22
Albert Silva, Waianae Coast No. 24
Katherine M. Bryant-Hunter, Kailua No. 31

Commission Update

Welcome New Commissioners

We would like to extend a warm welcome to new commissioners: **Gawain R. (Roy) Wickramaratna**, **Pohai Ryan**, and **Ed Gall**. Wickramaratna, a City Council appointee, joined the Commission in April; Ed Gall, a City Council appointee, joined the Commission in June and Pohai Ryan, a Mayoral appointee, joined the Commission in September. Also, congratulations to Commissioner Kalene Sakamoto for her reappointment to the Commission.

Revised Neighborhood Plan 2002 Update

The Neighborhood Plan Committee continues to meet to review recommended amendments to the 2nd Draft Revised Neighborhood Plan 2002. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 16, 8 a.m. at the Department of Human Resources Conference Room, 550 South King Street Annex.

Information gathered will be compiled into a document for the Commission to review and prepare for public hearings. The final Neighborhood Plan is expected to be available in early 2003.

Neighborhood Board Initiative Petitions

The Commission accepted amendments to the Initiative Petitions for the following Neighborhood Boards:

Kuliouou/Kalani Iki No. 2 - retain 17 seats with a new seat representation scheme

Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights No. 14 - name change (formerly Liliha/Alewa/Puunui/Kamehameha Heights) and new seat representation scheme

Aiea No. 20 - reduce the total number of Board seats from 17 to 15 with a new seat representation scheme

Ewa No. 23 - increase the total number of seats from 9 to 11 with the establishments of subdistricts

Waianae Coast No. 24 - reduce the total number of seats from twenty-five (25) to fifteen (15) with a new seat representation scheme.

All amendments take effect with the 2003 biennial

2003 Neighborhood Board Elections

The Neighborhood Commission Office is actively preparing for the 2003 Neighborhood Board Elections.

Candidacy forms will be available in mid November at satellite city halls, fire stations, recreation centers and public libraries. Application forms will be mailed to neighborhood board members.

Neighborhood board members are volunteers elected to serve two-year terms. Candidates for the 2003-2005 term must file their forms by Tuesday, **January 21, 2003**; either by mail or hand-delivering the forms to the Neighborhood Commission Office by 4:30 p.m. There are no requirements of filing fees or petition signatures for neighborhood members.

Voting is easy. Ballots will be mailed to all qualified voters along with a profile of the candidates and a postage paid envelope. Ballots will be mailed in mid March and must be returned postmarked by **April 21, 2003**.

Election results will be released on **Monday, May 1, 2003**, with newly elected members taking office on **June 1, 2003**.

Hoike Lono is published by the Neighborhood
Commission Office, City and County of Honolulu
Benjamin Kama, Jr., Executive Secretary
Honolulu Hale, Room 400
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 527-5749 fax: (808) 527-5760
web site: www.co.honolulu.hi.us
email: nco@co.honolulu.hi.us

Cost Savings In Uncontested Races

At its meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2002, the Neighborhood Commission will discuss concerns raised regarding uncontested races in the Neighborhood Board elections. Section 3-6.5 of the Neighborhood Plan states that in uncontested races the ballots shall not be mailed to the neighborhood board district or subdistrict as applicable, and the candidates shall be deemed to have been elected upon certification of the election results.

The Neighborhood Commission saved \$41,000 in the 2002 Neighborhood Board elections as a result of a decision made to not mail ballots in those cases of an uncontested race for Neighborhood Board seats.

The savings came from two sources: 1) unexpended postage (for ballots going out and being returned to the Neighborhood Commission Office) and from handling charges associated with ballot packet production.

Executive Secretary's Message

By Benjamin Kama, Jr.

Aloha,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you, Board chairs and members, for your well wishes for my speedy recovery during my illness these past few months.

As we near the end of the 2001 term and begin preparations for the 2003 Neighborhood Board Elections. I would like to applaud and recognize all of you for your commitment and participation in this unique system. I encourage all of you be a candidate in the upcoming election.

Again, a sincere Mahalo to everyone for your well wishes in my recovery.



NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 400
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813